

City of Wayne

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MASS MEDIA BUREAU

January 22, 1993 JAN 27 1993

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VIDEO SERVICES

FCC - MAIL ROOM

Federal Communications Commission 1919 "M" Street N.W. Washington, DC 20554-0001

Re: Cable T.V. Rule Making

Dear Communication Commission Members:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS OCCUMENON
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The City of Wayne appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed Federal Communication Commission FCC Cable Television Rule Making. Having a non-exclusive franchise with our local cable company, we would like to offer the following concerns:

1. Blackouts: Wayne is located in the northeast corner of the State, 45 miles from Sioux City, Iowa, having three network affiliates, and 110 miles from Omaha, having all the major network affiliates. We are faced with numerous daily blackouts of signals from the major commercial, Nebraska news reporting stations in Omaha. Blackouts are common, often for purposes of Sioux City affiliates to broadcast Iowa sporting activities which are of little concern to us in Nebraska. Our major market, for FCC purposes, appears to be Sioux City, Iowa; however, we feel our major viewing market is Omaha. The problem could possibly be resolved by placing major State (Nebraska) stations in the basic tier. This would then enable persons to be able to watch programming in their own State and not be blacked out as is currently the case. In our City of 5,100, the rate payers are spending \$300,000 annually to be able to watch Omaha stations, the State's largest market, which carries daily news and weather information from the Capital and throughout the State, only to have blackouts even during non-simultaneous

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- 2. Shift of Stations from Basic: Our local cable company Jones Intercable is trying to reduce many of the current basic services stations in an attempt to place them in a non-regulated portion of the Act. We believe this is a blatant attempt to circumvent the intent of the law.
- 3. Cost Increases: Another of many rate increases has been announced by our cable operator for implementation March 1, 1993; just a month prior to the April FCC rate making guidelines. The company has declined to provide any justification for their increase. It is our belief that we should have the opportunity to review this announced increase under the new rules; and the increase should be proposed and requested. Specifically referencing this in the rules would be beneficial to all rate payers.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Salitros City Administrator

JHS: bam